

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 24413 191349Z

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ACTION EA-06

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 24413

LIMDIS

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: /A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: CATTLE PRESENTATION TO H.M. THE KING

1. MR. R.W. MAYRONNE, JR., COVINGTON, LA. ON NOVEMBER 12 PRESENTED TWO PURE BRED RED BRAHMAN CATTLE TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING. THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE WAS ALSO INVITED TO THE AUDIENCE WITH THE KING. THE AUDIENCE WAS SCHEDULED FOR 15 MUNUTES, BUT THE KING TALKED WITH THE AMERICANS FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR.

2. THE KING COVERED A NUMBER OF POINTS THAT HE INDICATED HE WANTED REPORTED TO THE AMBASSADOR.

(A) HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE AND NEED FOR CLOSER TIES BETWEEN THAI AND U.S. AGRICULTURE. THE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON HIS PROGRAM IN COOPERATIVE VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT WHICH INCLUDES BOTH AGRICULTURE AND THE WELFARE OF THE FARM FAMILY.

(B) HE EXPRESSED HIS DISMAY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS PASSAGE OF THE RESOLUTION AGAINST ZIONISM. HE INDICATED THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE U.N. HE SAID THAT IF ONE FOLLOWED THE REASONING OF THE RESOLUTION TO ITS ULTIMATE EXTREME, THAIS COULD NOT LONGER CALL THEMSELVES THAIS.

(C) THE KING SPOKE ABOUT HIS PERSONAL FEELINGS TOWARD THE U.S. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THERE ARE OUTWARD SIGNS OF ANTI-AMERICANISM IN THAILAND, BOTH HE AND THE MAJORITY OF THE
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 24413 191349Z

THAI PEOPLE WERE PRO-AMERICAN. ALTHOUGH FROM TIME TO TIME THE

U.S. DID THINGS WHICH MADE HIM UNHAPPY, HIS DISTRESS WAS ALWAYS TEMPORARY.

(D) HE TALKED AT LENGTH ABOUT THE PROBLEMS IN THE BORDERING COUNTRIES OF LAOS AND CAMBODIA. HE SAID HIS PEOPLE DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THESE COUNTRIES AND DID NOT REALIZE THE PEOPLE THERE WERE TAKEN TO THE FIELDS TO WORK WITH A GUN IN THEIR BACK. HE SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE THAI PEOPLE WOULD STAND FOR SUCH TAKEOVER OF THEIR COUNTRY AND LOSS OF

THEIR RIGHTS.

(E) THE KING TALKED ABOUT HIS DISILLUSIONMENT WITH POLITICIANS. HE SAID THE POLITICIANS WERE NOT CONCERNED WITH THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE BUT ACTED ONLY IN THEIR OWN BEHALF.

(F) THE KING THANKED MR. MAYRONNE FOR THE CATTLE AND STATED THAT THE LIVESTOCK PROGRAM WAS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THAILAND. HIS REASONS WERE THAT THAI FARMERS NEEDED BIGGER AND BETTER CATTLE AS A SOURCE OF POWER TO REPLACE THE FARM TRACTORS. THE KING THINKS THERE WILL BE LITTLE OR NO TRACTOR FUEL IN A FEW YEARS AND CATTLE WILL BE NEEDED TO TILL THE LAND.

WHITEHOUSE

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